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A Manual for the use of Notaries Public, comprising a summary of the Law of Bills of Exchange and of Promissory Notes—both in Europe and the United States—Checks on Bankers, and Sight-bills, with approved forms of Protest, and notice of Protest, and references to important legal decisions; adapted to the use of Notaries Public and Bond Officers. By Bernard Roelker, A. M., of the Boston Bar. New York: G. P. Putnam & Co., 1853. 173 pp. 8vo.

The title of this book, which we transcribe at length, indicates with sufficient distinctness its nature and objects. Though we possess in general the proper professional dislike to manuals, and the other short-hand methods of cramming law into laymen, which “enterprising publishers” occasionally inflict upon society, we must except from the rule of condemnation this accurate and convenient little treatise, both on account of its subject and its manner of preparation. A work of the kind is continually needed by the class to which it addresses itself. From the character of their business, they must frequently be called upon to solve in action, questions upon the law of bills and notes, which even a well-read lawyer would hesitate to answer off-hand. This being so, the Notary Public, who very rarely has had any legal training, must need at his elbow some safe guide to which he can turn with confidence in an emergency for the requisite information. Such, we can state from examination, is the work before us. It is a compact and careful summary of the law on the subjects of which it treats, with a collection of the statutes and notes of the principal decisions bearing thereon. A *résumé* of the law of the continent of Europe with regard to bills and notes is prefixed, and will be found of very considerable value.

Professional Ethics. By George Sharswood. Philadelphia: T. & J. W. Johnson. 1854.

We have received a copy of this well-timed and well-written pamphlet, but unfortunately too late for anything but the briefest notice at present. A more extended review will find a place in our next number. In the meantime we may say, that the work is one whose plan and execution will receive the most earnest commendation from every lawyer who has the true interests of his profession at heart.